

General John Frelinghuysen House
Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
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133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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General John Breelinghuysen House
Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey

Owner: Mrs. Ida Glazier

Date of Erection: Last quarter of the eighteenth century

Architect:

Builder:

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - main section
brick, additions frame construction

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

This house stands on a grant of nineteen hundred and four acres made in 1683 to Graham, Winder, and Company. A third quarter was assigned to James Graham who in 1693 sold to Peter Van Nest who deeded a farm to his son-in-law Derrick Middaugh in 1709. Cornelius Derrick, his son, inherited the property. Cornelius died in 1778; he was a member of the New Jersey militia and served as commissioner of highways. He may have been the builder of this house.

Erskine's Revolutionary map shows a house marked Colonel Frelinghuysen at approximately the spot where this house stands. Colonel Frederick Frelinghuysen, later General Frelinghuysen, was the son of the Reverend John Frelinghuysen born in 1753 in the Old Parsonage (NJ-294). He was a lawyer, member of the Provincial Congress of New Jersey and of the Continental Congress, and later a United States Senator.

Colonel Frederick's son was General John Frelinghuysen, a lawyer and Brigadier General of Militia. General John, the first certain owner of the house, was born in 1775 and died in 1833. He had six children; two of his daughters, Catherine and Sara, continued to occupy the old home. In 1924 the Frelinghuysens sold to Mr. Glazier; his widow is the present owner.

It is possible that the house was built by Cornelius Middaugh. Colonel Frederick Frelinghuysen might have been the builder, since Erskine's map indicates his house to have been in this spot. There is also a possibility that General John Frelinghuysen erected it, and that seems to be very likely. The house has an early nineteenth century doorway and a neo-classic portico. The low frame wing served as slave quarters.

Bibliography:

Snell, James P. The History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties Philadelphia, Everts and Peck, 1881

Bailey, R. P. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York New York, William Horrow and Company, 1936

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